

**Date: November 19, 2002**

**Re: Pre-Development Grant from Housing and Urban Development**

Mayor Bob Young announced today that the Deputy Secretary for the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Alphonso Jackson, will be in Augusta Monday, November 25, to personally present the City of Augusta a pre-development grant in support of the city's affordable housing program.

Mayor Young said: "When Secretary Jackson visited our city a year ago, he made it clear that he likes the work our many community development organizations are doing to put new life into the inner city. Mr. Jackson promised financial support from HUD and said he would be back."

Mr. Jackson will present the mayor with a \$500,000 check for pre-development support for the community development organizations to help them carry out their affordable housing initiatives.

Mayor Young has set a goal of 200 housing starts and rehabs by 2005. "This check will get us on the road in a very quick way," the mayor said.

"With HUD and the city supplying the planning and administration, the development companies can spend more of their funds on construction and client services."

Mr. Jackson will present the check at a breakfast at the Beulah Grove Resource Center on Poplar Street at 8am. Prior to the breakfast, Mr. Jackson will be briefed on the work of the 30901 Development Corporation and take a walking tour of their projects.

During the breakfast, Mayor Young will announce the creation of a new partnership involving the City of Augusta, HUD, CSRA Community Foundation and Augusta Housing Authority to create The Augusta Housing Trust for long-term sustainability of the city's affordable housing programs.